

**Village of Indian Head Park
201 Acacia Drive
Indian Head Park, IL 60525**

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

“Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/c.06 (3) minutes of public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided and a record of votes taken.”

Thursday, January 10, 2013

7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – MAYOR RICAHRD S. ANDREWS

The regular scheduled meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Richard S. Andrews. Village Clerk Joseph Consolo called the roll as follows:

ROLL CALL: JOSEPH CONSOLO, VILLAGE CLERK

PRESENT (AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM):

Mayor Richard Andrews
Trustee Debbie Anselmo
Trustee Brian T. Bailey
Trustee Anne Bermier
Trustee Norman L. Schnauffer
Trustee Dennis Schermerhorn
Trustee Matt Walsh

ALSO PRESENT:

Frank Alonzo, Chief of Police/Administration
Steve Busa, Treasurer
Joseph V. Consolo, Village Clerk
Richard Ramello, Counsel, Storino, Ramello & Durkin

NOT PRESENT:

Edward Santen, Water/Public Works Superintendent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Andrews and the Board of Trustees led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: *“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all”*.

MAYOR’S REPORT – RICHARD ANDREWS

Mayor Andrews stated although the agenda reflects review of the financial report for the months of November, 2012 and December 2012, these two items will be deferred for the Board’s consideration at the February 14th meeting. Mayor Andrews stated Billy Jo Brink, the wife of Dave Brink, the Village’s Finance Director, passed away in December. Dave has been on family medical leave so the reports will be completed next month.

Mayor Andrews and the Board also extended condolences to the family of Frank Alonzo, on the loss of his mother-in-law, Audrey Kraft.

Mayor Andrews reported the Illinois Tollway Authority announced through a press release there will be public access to traffic cameras on their website so individuals can monitor traffic patterns to determine which tollway to use. He noted there are three cameras along the Jane Adams Memorial Tollway, eight cameras along the Tri-State, two along Veteran’s Memorial (I-355) and two along the Reagan Memorial Tollway. Further information may be found on the following Website: www.illinoistollway.com.

Mayor Andrews stated the American Cancer Society in the region that Indian Head Park falls within is preparing for “Relay for Life”. He noted each American Cancer Society Relay for Life event gives everyone an opportunity to fight cancer and help save more lives. The team is made up of family members, friends and/or co-workers who camp out overnight at a local school, park or fairgrounds. Mayor Andrews stated the team takes turns walking around a track or pathway because cancer never sleeps each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the overnight event.

Relay for Life is a signature fundraising event for the American Cancer Society and this year's event is planned for July 12th or July 13th. Mayor Andrews stated if anyone is interested, there is a Relay for Life planning meeting on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Adventist LaGrange Hospital and additional information is available in the Administration Offices.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS – TREASURER STEVE BUSA

Financial Report for the month ending November 30, 2012

Financial Report for the month ending December 31, 2012

Review and approval of the November and December financial statements will be presented for the Board's approval at the February 14th meeting.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting – December 13, 2012

Minutes of the Public Hearing – December 19, 2012

After review of meeting minutes, Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Schnauffer, to approve the December 13, 2012 Board meeting minutes as presented. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0). After review of meeting minutes, Trustee Bermier moved, seconded by Trustee Walsh, to approve the December 19, 2012 Public Hearing meeting minutes, as amended. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (DISCUSSION AND A POSSIBLE VOTE MAY TAKE PLACE)

1. Discussion and a Possible Vote Regarding Adoption of Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance.

Mayor Andrews stated the Board previously conducted the required two public hearings regarding the electric aggregation, the Village's Plan of Operation and Governance was discussed in great detail at the public hearings and the intent of the ordinance presented to the Board this evening is to adopt the Village of Indian Head Park Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance.

Mayor Andrews further stated approval of the ordinance also designates the Village Administrator to compose the request for proposal including input and direction as set forth in the plan of governance or any additional items that may be incorporated.

Mayor Andrews stated the Plan of Operation and Governance provides for requirements that need to be incorporated in the request for proposals from the third party energy suppliers. Mayor Andrews mentioned that Mr. Hinshaw previously asked if there were extra costs as it relates to the electric aggregation process. He noted that there are administrative costs for attendance at meetings and preparation of public meeting minutes. Mayor Andrews stated in the Plan of Operation and Governance there is a provision that requires the Village to provide the selected energy supplier with customer data so they can send the letters to customers regarding the opt out period. He noted the Village does not maintain those records and will obtain it from Commonwealth Edison and there is a fee for the list.

There being no comments from the audience on this matter, Mayor Andrews entertained a motion to approve the ordinance to adopt the Village of Indian Head Park Plan of operation Governance Plan. Trustee Schermerhorn moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to approve *Ordinance #2013-1* authorizing the aggregation for residential, small commercial and retail users and adopting the Village of Indian Head Park Plan of Operation and Governance, as amended. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0). *Ordinance #2013-1*.

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Schnaufer, Schermerhorn, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Trustee Schermerhorn suggested a couple of minor grammatical changes: (1) on page one of the ordinance, the fifth whereas, the words “*and its residents*” should be added and (2) on page 3, line 3, the correction of a typographical error. Trustee Schermerhorn moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to amend *Ordinance #2013-1*, as stated. Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Schnaufer, Schermerhorn, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

Mayor Andrews stated the ordinance authorizes the Village Administrator to compose the request for proposal and it authorizes the Village officials to do what is necessary to implement the electric aggregation plan. Mayor Andrews stated there were a few suggestions at the public hearings with regard to the request for proposal.

Mayor Andrews noted one item he mentioned was to request that once we have the cut-over to a new supplier and the opt out period has ended, there be a provision added to allow an additional three months to allow residents to exit a program without a termination fee. Mayor Andrews stated on page 8 of the Plan of Operation and Governance there is a reference that the early termination fee would be no higher than \$25.00. Counsel Ramello stated that the term of the opt out period and early termination fee could be established in the request for proposal to electric suppliers. He added some bidders may waive the early termination fee on their own to entice Villages to select them as the supplier or the Village may set the fee not to exceed a certain amount.

Mayor Andrews stated on page 6, item 3, ***Rates, of the Plan of Operation*** states in part “*The Village’s intent in soliciting proposals is to provide residents and small commercial retail accounts with delivered electricity prices that are always less than the Electric Utility’s applicable rates*”. Mayor Andrews stated the Village wants to go out for bids to lower the cost. However, in the future there may be a rate change and the Village would want that benefit. Counsel Ramello stated an opt out provision could be added to the request for proposal that if the Commonwealth Edison rate drops lower than the alternate energy provider, someone would have the option of opting out to seek a lower price.

Mayor Andrews stated the intent is to keep the aggregated rate the lowest possible rate to the residents as a term of the contract whether it is a one, two or three year contract. Bob Bersin, of Acacia, stated it is his understanding all electric suppliers have to provide an opt out period and if there is a lower rate than Commonwealth Edison’s supplier they will get that rate too.

Amy Wittenberg, of Timber Ridge Court, asked if the rate in the bids would be based on the amount of electricity purchased, is there a requirement that there must be 90% participation to get a certain rate and if some residents decide to opt out would that affect the rate. Counsel Ramello stated that the electric suppliers will not be able to change their price based on the number of households that participate but they will quote a firm price that will be in effect for the length of time the contract is in place.

He added the price will not change whether no one opts out or everyone opts out of the program. Amy Wittenberg stated her belief that with aggregation everyone is always looking at the percentage of participation. Counsel Ramello stated an electric supplier may initially quote a higher price if they believe that everyone will opt out but if everyone is planning to go with the supplier, they may give a better rate. Once the contract is signed, the supplier is locked in for the term of the contract regardless of how many participate.

Trustee Bailey stated that someone may provide a bid that if participation drops to a certain percentage, the rate goes up. He added the Board has a right to not accept that bid. Counsel Ramello stated the Village will set the terms of the request for proposals and the bidders cannot change those terms.

Aileen Henkel, of Algonquin Drive, stated she received a call from Commonwealth Edison offering a different rate. Mayor Andrews stated he is not aware that Commonwealth Edison is offering to renegotiate the rate. Counsel Ramello stated that he would be suspect of that call because Commonwealth Edison has publicly stated they are neutral on the electric aggregation and not favoring an electrical supplier including Exelon, their sister company.

Mayor Andrews stated the request for proposal that is put out to suppliers would include a request for an additional three month opt out period for the cut-over date, an early termination without a fee provision and a provision that the rate would be no higher than Commonwealth Edison's electric supplier rate. If the Commonwealth Edison rate falls below the contract rate, the lower rate would be maintained. Counsel Ramello stated that these terms could be added to the contract and also if over the life of the contract the ComEd rate drops lower than the Village's rate, the Village could opt out without an early termination fee.

2. Discussion Regarding Water Rates

Mayor Andrews stated that the City of Chicago is in the second year of a four year program of water rate increases. He noted the Village receives Lake Michigan water through the City of Countryside who informed the Village that there will be a 42 cents per 1,000 gallons of water pass through rate increase effective January 1, 2013. Mayor Andrews recommended that counsel prepare an ordinance for the next Board meeting to increase the water rate by 42 cents per 1,000 gallons of water effective January 1, 2013 that is being passed along by the City of Countryside. Mayor Andrews stated the Village is not in a financial position to absorb an increase in the water rate that is being imposed to the Village.

Mayor Andrews stated the City of Chicago is also planning another increase in January, 2014 and also January, 2015.

Trustee Bermier asked if the West Central Municipal Conference had any news on this issue. Mayor Andrews stated the West Central Municipal Conference created a water committee task force and they met with the City of Chicago. There was some discussion with City officials that possibly there could be some discount but there is nothing in writing that the City of Chicago has agreed to regarding the water rates.

QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Bob Bersin, of Acacia, asked if minutes from the previous meetings will be posted on the Village's Website. Mayor Andrews stated once the minutes are approved, they are posted on the Website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Walsh, to adjourn to executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline or performance of specific employees. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Schnaufer, Schermerhorn, Walsh

Nays: None

Absent: None

RETURN TO THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Trustee Bermier moved, seconded by Trustee Schermerhorn, to return to the regular Board meeting. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Anselmo moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey, to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 8:40 p.m. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Leach, Deputy Village Clerk/Recording Secretary